

INDIANA GUARDSMAN

SPRING 2012

An Indiana National Guard Publication

Army Aviation:
Consistent Support through Persistent Conflict



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Front Cover: Sgt. Kevin Sutton removes a rotor blade from a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at the Shelbyville Army Aviation Support Facility. Photo by Staff Sgt. Tommi Meyer

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Visit the Indiana National Guard at www.in.ng.mil and search "Indiana Guardsman" on Facebook and Twitter.

Message from The Adjutant General ...

Thank You Indiana, Our Community

The beginning of 2012 has revealed many things. With the loss of four of our finest of the 713th Engineer Company, we are reminded that we continue to engage a dangerous and determined adversary in Afghanistan.

With the drawdown in Iraq, we can find hope that our efforts of the last 10 years have had a measure of success.

When some of the strongest storms in years ravaged southern Indiana, we saw that we, as a community-based organization, continue to perform a vital role in supporting our neighbors when they are at their most vulnerable.

During the Super Bowl we stood shoulder to shoulder with Indiana's public safety community to ensure the security of hundreds of thousands of visitors to the state's capital.

As always, I was encouraged and proud to witness the professionalism and commitment of each and every Indiana National Guardsman as we turned to our responsibilities. At every turn, I have been asked to carry a message to you all from a grateful public, thank you for your

service at home and abroad.

In return, I would ask that you carry that same message to the people of Indiana. Take it to your employers, your community leaders, your neighbors and your friends - most importantly your families.

Let them know how much we appreciate their support. It is sincere and unwavering. We could not do what we do or be who we are without them.

With the ongoing challenges we face, continued deployments, increased homeland security duties and economic pressures, I encourage you to evaluate and adjust your strategies. Leverage available resources, your military training and civilian educational benefits as well as the Employment Coordination Program. Increase your awareness of your physical, emotional and mental health and focus on sustaining yourselves as part of the force integral to the safety and security of our nation and wonderful state.

Indiana has accomplished much.



Photo by Sgt. John Crosby
Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, watches the color guard during the Johnson County Armory opening in November.

You have proven yourselves leaders and an inspiration for your fellow citizens.

Well done.

KeepINNG up with the Indiana National Guard



Want more Indiana Guard news?
Can't get enough info about your fellow, community-based military responders?

Then check out the monthly digital magazine, *KeepINNG up with the Indiana National Guard*.

Online at www.in.ng.mil.

SUPER AWESOME

Troops tackle events leading up to big game

In the days leading up to Super Bowl XLVI, there were several events held in Indianapolis and central Indiana that benefitted and recognized military service members.

At the Indianapolis Indoor Sports Park Feb. 1, the Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team faced off against NFL alumni that included multiple Super Bowl winning Pittsburgh Steeler and former Vietnam War veteran Rocky Bleier, Hall of Famer Jack Youngblood, and former Indianapolis Colts quarterbacks Jeff George and Jim Sorgi.

Bleier, a Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient, helped sponsor the event and said events like these raise awareness for everyone involved.

"This event really elevates an exposure to our young Soldiers coming back, our young wounded warriors. And to showcase their drive, their talent, the ability to use their prosthetics, and that life can be normal no matter what the obstacle may be in front you," said Bleier.

The wounded warrior team is a group of athletic young men who have sustained severe injuries resulting in amputation while serving in the military. Through extensive rehabilitation and determination they have managed to continue doing what they say they love to do, playing sports. According to the WWAST website, the team's mission is to raise awareness of the sacrifices and resiliency of U.S. military men and women.

Operation Enduring Freedom Army veteran Matthew Kinsey, a right foot amputee and former Rockville, Ind., high school football athlete, said he was excited to be given the chance to play on the field with NFL players.

"It's like a dream come true. It's just like a chance to be an athlete and a lot of people aren't lucky enough to get a second chance to be an athlete. For us, to be able to come out here and do this, it means everything," he said.

The next night, Jim McMahon, the retired

See **SUPER AWESOME**, page 26



Soldiers and their family members take in NFL Salute to Service activities at Camp Atterbury, Ind., Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Scotten



Football fans gather at the Indiana Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument in Indianapolis.

Photo by Sgt. John Crosby



Dan Lasko, a Marine veteran and amputee, catches a pass during the flag football game against NFL alumni.

Photo by Sgt. William E. Henry



Staff Sgt. Betty White sings the national anthem, Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012, at a celebration leading up to Super Bowl XLVI.

Photo by Sgt. John Crosby



Members of the 4-19th Agribusiness Development Team chat via satellite feed with Jim McMahon, other athletes and celebrities at the Fourth Annual Swang N' Super Bowl Bash in Indianapolis, Thursday Feb. 2, 2012.

Photo by Sgt. John Crosby



A football fan tries out a National Guard combat simulator at the Super Bowl Village in Indianapolis, Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012.

Photo by Sgt. John Crosby



Matt Service, Edinburg, Ind., takes the Panther Racing IndyCar simulator for a spin at the NFL's Salute to Service event at Camp Atterbury, Ind., Thursday, Feb. 2, 2012.

Photo by Staff Sgt. David Bruce

INDIANA GUARDSMAN Past,

Present, Future

By Carol Marrow
Indiana National Guard
Public Affairs

For those of you who may not know, the publication you are reading is part of the Indiana adjutant general's command information program. It is produced in accordance with military regulations under the direction of Maj. Shawn D. Gardner, director of Indiana National Guard's Public Affairs.

As a member of the public affairs team, I am involved with some of the tasks related to the *Indiana Guardsman*. I have had several questions about its origin and history. For example, "Has it always been called the *Indiana Guardsman*? When was it first published? What did it look like? How has it evolved over the years to what it is today? Perhaps, you have had the same questions but couldn't find the answers. This article shares what I have learned about *The Indiana Guardsman* – its past, present and future.

For answers, I scavenged through the public affairs files and skimmed through old publications. I also contacted the Indiana State Library and obtained copies of the first and second issues. I spoke with some individuals who had formerly been responsible for its production, and I gleaned information from "Indiana's Longest Arm" written by retired Col. Robert T. Fischer, who was an Indiana Guard historian.

Fischer's book revealed that the first issue, *The Hoosier National Guardsman*, was printed as a four-page glossy newsletter. There was the huge focus on a holiday that I had never heard of before – Army Day. The holiday had been created

to bring public awareness to the effectiveness of the Army's defense program. I found it ironic that although Army Day had been the primary focus of the April 1949 issue, it was last observed nationally, April 6, 1949.

Another intriguing item was an official statement from Gen. Omar N. Bradley, Army Chief of Staff. In part, his message stated, "Within our service, we are striving to build a team of mobile divisions trained and ready for instant use in case of emergency. And in our plans, we are relying on the rising strength of the National Guard and Reserve Corps for the broad base of any future mobilization."

In May 1949, the second issue, like the first, was printed in black ink, but this time on white stock paper. It was also renamed *The Indiana National Guardsman*.

Pages increased in number but fluctuated, and paper stock changed back to glossy as production continued until December 1964. Afterwards it stopped due to the high cost of printing and postage. Production resumed in February 1971 when the Department of the Army successfully obtained an official business citation. Postage and fees were paid by the Department of the Army.

In February 1972, nine Guardsmen of the 120th Public Information Detachment were tasked with revamping the publication so it would appeal to younger readers. They kept the name and gave the magazine a new look. Published quarterly rather than monthly, *The Indiana National Guardsman* became a 16-page magazine filled with text and photographs.

The forces who created the new look were pictured in a photo on the inside back cover. I was surprised to see that one of the Soldiers pictured was Spc.4th Class Dan Quayle, who became vice president in 1989.

Starting at the end of 1972 color and graphics were added to the mix. The publication won third place in the Keith L. Ware Awards, a worldwide, annual competition, among military publications, in 1972, 1973 and 1974.

Starting in 1977, the *Guardsman* changed to a black and white, four-page newspaper measuring 11.5 by 17 inches. The masthead read *Indiana Guardsman*. The format remained the same for the next two years.

In the 1980s, publication was sporadic. No volume or numbering system existed, and the eight-paged newsletter was printed in black and white.

From 1983 to early 1985, it was circulated as the *Indiana Army/Air Guardsman*; it changed back to the *Indiana Guardsman* in mid-1985.

Since I was unable to access archived files from 1989 to 2004, I cannot address what the look and feel of the *Guardsman* was at that time. I located the Summer 2004 and Winter-Spring 2004 issues, which were 28-page, full-color magazines with photographs.

Today that format has been retained, but the style has changed with the times and the publication's editors.

Present editor, Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry, emphasized that the public affairs office understands its command information mission and constantly strives to meet that challenge.

"The mission of the *Indiana Guardsman* is to tell the Indiana National Guard story, and to make that story as interesting and

informative as possible," he said.

Different viewpoints exist concerning what form and shape the *Indiana Guardsman* will take on in the future.

"Although we've been driven to evolve with the development and creation of new technology, seeing the news in print still has importance and validity," said Staff Sgt. Tommi Meyer, a former editor of the *Guardsman*.

Where the future is concerned, one can be certain that as new technology evolves the *Guardsman* will also evolve. The public affairs office has accomplished this with the *Guardsman's* online presence and social media outlets.

"Every publication must evolve, it cannot remain static. You must be dynamic in your approach to maintain interest and readership," said Susan Hawver, former editor and current webmaster of the Indiana National Guard website.

As webmaster, Hawver ensures what is posted on our website is timely and relevant. The latest public affairs information tool, *KeepINNG up with the Indiana National Guard*, a digital magazine, is her creation.

The mission of getting the word out to Guard members and telling their story will remain steadfast regardless of the *Guardsman's* shape or structure. After all, as a coworker so eloquently said, it is their story that truly makes up the heart of the magazine.

"Every publication must evolve, it cannot remain static. You must be dynamic in your approach to maintain interest and readership."

Susan Hawver, webmaster



Honoring the Fallen



Photo by Roland Balik

A U.S. Army carry team transfers the remains of Spc. Robert J. Tauteris Jr., of Hamlet, Ind., at Dover Air Force Base, Del., Jan. 8, 2012.

713th Engineers, Guardsmen receive full military honors

Indiana National Guard Soldiers, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Matthew Metzger, 32, Indianapolis, Sgt. Brian Jeffery Leonhardt, 21, Merrillville, Ind., Spc. Robert Tauteris Jr., 44, of Hamlet, Ind., and Spc. Christopher Alexander Patterson, 20, Aurora, Ill., were all laid to rest in ceremonies in January with full military honors.

The Soldiers were killed Jan. 6 in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, when enemy forces attacked their vehicle with a roadside bomb. They were combat engineers with Indiana's 713th Combat Engineer Company headquartered in Valparaiso, Ind.

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels said he was shocked and dismayed upon receiving information on the incident.

"This morning, I received from the adjutant general the news a person in my job dreads the most, that we have lost soldiers in combat," said Daniels. "I had begun to hope that I had received the last such phone call, and cannot convey the sadness which it instantly brought."

Daniels attended the services of the fallen Soldiers alongside Indiana

National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger. They agreed that Indiana National Guard members provide high-caliber service.

"The Indiana National Guard is America's finest, reflected in its numbers, leadership, but mostly in the quality of the men and women it comprises," said Daniels. "My prayers are joined with those of millions of Hoosiers who will hear this terrible news with deep grief but also with gratitude for the courage of those we have lost, and pride that we come from a state that produces men such as these."

"I would like to extend my deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of these brave citizen-Soldiers," said Umbarger. "I continue to be humbled and honored by the courageousness of gallant young men and women who wear the uniform of this nation, willingly going into harm's way, to protect and defend our freedoms and the freedom of others. We will honor their sacrifice and always remember them."



Contributed photo

Ceremonial display for the four fallen Soldiers.

Staff Sgt. Jonathan Metzger Sgt. Brian Leonhardt

From: Indianapolis
Born: Chicago Heights, Ill.,
Oct. 16, 1979.
Joined the Guard: 2006
Previous Service:
Marines 1998 to 2005
Previous Deployments:
OIF 2008



From: Merrillville, Ind.
Born: Crown Point, Ind.,
March 6, 1990
Joined the Guard: 2008

Spc. Robert Tauteris Jr. Spc. Christopher Patterson

From: Hamlet, Ind.
Born: Valparaiso, Ind.,
Sept. 13, 1967
Joined the Guard: 2007
Previous Deployments:
OEF 2009 to 2010



From: Aurora, Ill.
Born: Philadelphia,
April 17, 1991
Joined the Guard: 2009

"The Indiana National Guard is America's finest, reflected in its numbers, leadership but mostly in the quality of the men and women it comprises."

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels



Indiana National Guard Soldiers with 38th Military Police Company Spc. Justin Brown, left, and Spc. Travis Vigeant, tend to Spc. Jacob Heffner who acts as an injured casualty during emergency-response training, Sunday, Feb. 5 2012. *Contributed photo*

Always Ready, Always There

Military police Soldiers train for Super Bowl emergency

*By Staff Sgt. Bethany Amarone
38th Military Police Company
Unit Public Affairs Representative*

The state of Indiana put approximately 120 military police officers and coordinating unit personnel from the 38th Military Police Company on standby during Super Bowl Sunday.

The 38th Division Soldiers prepared in order to support civil authorities and the city of Indianapolis. Leaders organized the officers into specialized teams and a larger multifunction protection group.

Four training stations prepared each Soldier to provide needed support at the request and direction of local, civilian authorities. These stations consisted of civil disturbance, first aid, vehicle recovery, and traffic control operations.

Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, and the division's Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion senior enlisted Soldier, Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Winters, observed training along with other state personnel.

"I witnessed firsthand the training that was performed in case they were needed by the citizens of Indiana and visitors from around the world," said Winters. "Our Soldiers were prepared for any mission that would have come their way before, during and after the Super Bowl."

Instructors came well-prepared. They brought equipment, slide shows and a wealth of knowledge so everyone would get the most from the practical exercises and demonstrations that kept the troops constantly engaged.

Indiana Army National Guard Sgt. Justin Spencer, a 38th Military Police officer who led an action team, said morale was high even though the biggest day in sports turned into a work day.

"The Super Bowl mission was a great opportunity to show the state and the country who the 38th MP Company is. We were definitely ready

for whatever would be asked of us," said Spencer.

All of the Soldiers were on standby throughout the night though they were not deployed to support civilian authorities. At the end of the day, the unit relaxed, ate pizza, and enjoyed the football game.

"The Super Bowl mission was a great opportunity to show the state and the country who the 38th MP Company is."

Sgt. Justin Spencer

Where we have been. Where we are going ... Jan. - Dec. 2004: 2-238th GSAB Stabilization Force 15, task force providing

INDIANA AVIATION

By Lt. Col. Tim Winslow

Consistent Support through Persistent Conflict

It is approaching 1 a.m., on a cold December day ... after a night-vision-goggle training flight. I'm walking with my crew of four from a freezing temporary storage hangar across a snow-covered ramp at the flight facility.

I watch two Soldiers in a fuel truck drive away, and I see six mechanics, required by regulation to move the aircraft, close up the tent and drive the tug back to the hangar.

Through a window into flight operations I can see the flight briefing officer and flight operations specialist preparing the final post-flight paperwork, and they are

staging to receive and secure sensitive items for the night. Friday night starts a 2.5-day training weekend, and I know many of the Soldiers with me are preparing for a deployment.

I wonder how many other Guardsmen know we are here so late, and I wonder if they know of the additional 12 Soldiers about to wake at 4 a.m. to make a 7:30 support mission takeoff time. These 12 Soldiers also work civilian jobs, and they will then complete mobilization training during the drill weekend. It strikes me that Indiana aviation has been quietly and successfully doing this constantly for nearly seven years, and will continue to do so into the foreseeable future. Amazing!



Photo by Sgt. William E. Henry



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tommi Meyer

Indiana National Guard Sgt. Jason Moon, Indianapolis, aviation mechanic, drives a tug towing a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter into a hangar at the Gary Limited Army Aviation Support Facility. Left: An Indiana Army National Guard UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter lands at Shelbyville Army Aviation Support Facility.

state of mobilization from approximately January 2003 through April 2013.

That's more than 10 years of constant planning, preparing, filling shortages, training, deploying, and redeploying. Indiana Army National Guard aviation accomplished this with a virtual imperceptible degradation in support operations to the state of Indiana.

Leadership Challenges

Mobilizations in aviation are challenging due to the force structure layout in addition to unique low density military occupational specialty skills, which often require lengthy school training. Aviation force structure in Indiana does not align through one single command.

The 38th Combat Aviation Brigade and 638th Aviation Support Battalion are the two major formations in alignment with the 38th Infantry Division. Headquarters, 2-238th General Support Aviation Battalion and its subordinate units align with the 77th Theater Aviation Brigade,

headquartered in Arkansas.

Fixed-wing units and other rotary-wing units report to various, external parent organizations. This varied structure generally provides for two mobilization alternatives; all aviation units deploy simultaneously in one mass task force formation, or full participation through individual unit deployments sequenced over time. Circumstances involved in producing a unified mass formation of Indiana aviation units did not materialize. Consequently, the full participation option over time resulted.

Since aviation units are comprised predominantly of unique military skills that cannot be produced on short notice, the pool of personnel with appropriate qualifications to cross level into deploying units within Indiana is a finite and limited resource. Primarily, cross leveling comes from within aviation at a cost to other non-deploying units.

The result for aviation planners has been a difficult, long-range planning calendar of how to resource extended mobilization time lines with a limited number of troops with critical skills available. This has been incredibly challenging in the long-term view. A one-time mass deployment of all units implies

throwing all available personnel simultaneously into deploying slots and working with National Guard Bureau and other states to fill Indiana shortages.

However, Indiana aviation's challenge, with so many deployments sequenced over time, has been a continuous and arduous evaluation on where and when to balance critical skills, seniority, leadership, and experience to cover current and future, known deployments.

Aviation senior staff spent many laborious hours planning and managing deployment manning rosters. Though some personnel have been on multiple deployments to fill critical vacancies, the 12 major aviation formations that have deployed thus far have performed well and successfully returned home.

Creating continuity and unity in aviation leadership over this extended cycle proved challenging, especially in 2008 when many senior leaders were simultaneously deployed with 38th CAB and 2-238th GSAB. Rear detachment processes bore a heavy burden during these deployments. After cross leveling, many units experienced depleted manning rosters and degraded readiness.

Unit level leadership and headquarters oversight insured depleted units had functional support in all categories. Rear detachment aviation units performed exceptionally well and maintained an outstanding level of readiness despite these challenges.

Once 38th CAB and 2-238th GSAB deployments occurred, consolidation of the remaining CAB and GSAB rear detachment leadership into one oversight and cooperative group was a key to success. The consolidated leadership from both rear detachments was able to leverage available personnel and be effective in managing the mission load.

Rear detachment units were able to effectively manage high current workloads while simultaneously preparing the next two or three deploying units. As an end result, the continuity in aviation leadership allowed deployed leadership the ability to focus on their mission. Previously published articles articulated their many hard earned accolades.

Leaders among aviation during this time were effective in creating continuity in leadership for current mission execution as well as future deployment planning and training.

"Honestly, I have wanted to do this since I was about eight years old. I love it. It is all I have ever wanted to do."

Staff Sgt. Ray Lowry, Aviation Mechanic

Flying is indescribably fun, but none of it would be possible without the 14 people here in the middle of the night to make these training flights happen.

Unprecedented Deployments

From January 2004 through August 2010, Indiana Army National Guard aviation continuously deployed company-level and above formations in all but seven months. Over these seven years, virtually all Indiana aviation

units contributed to deployments.

Projecting for publicly-known, future deployments, this incredible operations tempo will continue through April 2013 with only 19 months total of not having a unit deployed. Considering the 12- to 24-month advanced notification for a deployment, which is intended to provide focus on mobilization preparation and deployment training, Indiana Army National Guard aviation will have been in a constant

Though stressed and strained at times, aviation leadership has successfully managed this challenging deployment cycle and is postured well for future requirements

Indiana’s fixed wing structure has been no exception to this deployment cycle and has also excelled in the challenge of rear detachment mission support. Both the C-12 and C-23 units have multiple deployments behind them and a legacy of success.

Through cross training and rear detachment qualifications, Indiana’s Joint Forces Headquarters staff received great support from the Operational Support Airlift Agency while our aircraft were deployed. The professionalism, and experience of the rear detachment made scheduling flights a success.

Unit motivation and quick return to work post-mobilization have made their deployments successful and minimized the disruption to operations in Indiana.

Personnel & Mission Impact

In aviation, there is a difference between roles and functions of the full-time staff in the Directorate of Aviation and Safety - Army Aviation Support Facilities, fixed wing detachments - and deployable-unit formations.

The charter of the full-time staff is to maintain aircraft and provide individual-level training opportunities. Like other full-time Indiana National Guard staff, aviation personnel are also part of deployable units. However, most full-time aviation personnel have extensive experience and a unique skill set. These factors often result in the full-time staff being a considerable portion of the senior leadership within deployable units.

Though maybe not uncommon with any other deployable units, the challenge in aviation becomes finding a similarly qualified backfill while the staff deploys with their unit. Filling key positions in aviation units has an exponential impact



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tommi Meyer

Indiana Army National Guard Sgt. Daimeon Brownlee attaches a blade cuff in preparation for removing a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter rotor blade.

on the full-time aviation mission given the limited available pool of candidates and the number of deployments managed over the many years.

Over the 12 major aviation formations deployed since 2004, only four were company or below or did not involve senior staff positions of some kind. Knowing there would be an unknown number of aviation deployments meant that continued capabilities must exist in the rear detachments to continue training and aircraft maintenance.

There has not been a single aviation deployable unit that did not contribute to deployments and accept the accompanying leadership challenge of maintaining readiness with a depleted rear detachment. They all contributed, and the leadership has done an excellent job in maintaining readiness despite

limitations.

Domestic Operational Tempo Challenges & Successes

As the list of deployments indicates, there has been a steady balance of a quarter to a half of the aviation force deployed at any one time over the years. That includes personnel in leadership positions as well as aircraft.

Having half the aircraft deployed and half remaining has been a good balance but did present extreme challenges.

The domestic operations tempo continued at a high pace.

Senior, experienced, uniquely-skilled personnel were scarce due to cross leveling and even limited, minimally qualified backfills were rarely available. The available stay-behind staff had a monumental task

and performed exceptionally well.

Prior to 2005 Army aviation’s primary role was to have full-time staff prepare crews for their individual task proficiency and ensure aircraft were maintained for that training plus collective training on unit drill weekends. The staff focused on collective training and staff proficiency. State support missions were encountered on occasion but were not persistent.

In July 2005, the Indiana National Guard assumed the mission to develop the Muscatatuck Urban Training Center. In close order, Camp Atterbury was designated as a mobilization station for Army Reserve and National Guard units. Suddenly support requirements were numerous



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tommi Meyer

Indiana Army National Guard Capt. Travis Ward readies a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter for flight.

and persistent.

Indiana Army National Guard aviation now proudly contributes to U.S. Northern Command and Army North exercises, Patriot Academy, Kosovo Force mobilizations, State Department civilian-military training, Camp Atterbury Muscatatuck Center for Complex Operations hosted national-level exercises, site visits, and other distinguished visitor support missions.

Since 2005, Indiana Army National Guard aviation support facilities have transformed from an internal training entity to an additional operational support function. On

record in the last five years, aviation has supported anywhere from 130 to 190 support missions per year. This is in addition to their original charter of training, maintaining, and evaluations that simultaneously escalated with deployment training requirements.

In the past two years, those operational support missions involved two or more aircraft 65 percent of the time. That is approximately three missions per week, and often multi-aircraft missions. Aviation professionals have managed this daunting task in an exceptional manner.

Other than a few missions canceled



Photo by Staff Sgt. Tommi Meyer

Indiana Army National Guard Sgt. Rebeka Garcia works on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at the Gary Limited Aviation Flight Facility.

due to weather, no missions have been canceled for lack of flyable aircraft or available crew. This was accomplished many times at the expense of extending deployment training cycles and adding additional facility work hours to accommodate aircraft maintenance flow.

Likewise, with extensive personnel cross leveling, aka filling shortages, aviation units have had little need to call upon other states' National Guard aviation personnel and met all aircraft requirements for deployments.

The aviation facility staff and aviation leadership have consistently provided aircraft and crews to meet these enormous mission tasks and

deployment tasks simultaneously.

Aircraft & Facility Support

Another compelling element of aircraft and mission support has been the ability to support exponential growth in mission requirements while managing fragmented and reduced full-time support.

Full-time staffing levels are based on the training mission alone and do not reflect operational mission support requirements.

Deployment training and simultaneous mission support presents contradictory challenges on personnel and aircraft availability.

Certain crew training proficiency

and flight tasks must occur within a narrow window prior to mobilizing. Often those tasks require proficiency in emergency procedures, night vision goggles, instrument flight proficiency, tactical flight navigation, or other maneuvers that prohibit passenger operations. That too, means newly assigned crews must train on those tasks prior to passenger operations. Providing trainers and aircraft for these tasks is the primary charter for the aviation support facility full-time staff.

Operational missions have complicated deployment training by adding an additional crew requirement as well as managing

the additional aircraft maintenance flow.

Staffing levels also compounded the aviation challenge. Due to national budget shortfalls and organizational priorities, at times the Shelbyville and Gary Aviation Support Facilities have been short up to 15 of their authorized mechanics and operations personnel. Additionally, the Gary flight facility did not produce additional technician authorizations.

Lastly, as a necessary requirement to fill mobilization slots, for an extended period of time around 2008, nearly half the full-time aviation support facilities staff members were deployed.

Cross leveling senior facility staff into units to deploy, shortage of full-time staff, simultaneous training and operational support missions, all while preparing for the next deployment cycle, has been the constant and arduous task for the aviation leadership for many years.

There is great pride in having met deployment and domestic mission requirements simultaneously for such an extended period of time.

Available Tools

Indiana has had the distinction of having the oldest UH-60 fleet in the Army and one of the oldest flight support facilities in the country.

According to the date of manufacture, the average age of the Indiana UH-60 fleet has statistically been the oldest in the entire Army, including the National Guard. Additionally, the Army aviation facility in Shelbyville is one of only four in the United States that was not upgraded or rebuilt to accommodate modernized aircraft when the Guard received UH-60s and other modern airframes. As an example, a modern hangar facility requires an 80-foot by 70-foot area to safely park one UH-60. The entire hangar at the existing facility is only 99 by 136 feet and supports 16 to 19 aircraft.

Though a wonderful new flight facility exists in Gary, deployment of personnel and aircraft have

significantly impacted its operational capability.

As a consequence, only two OH-58 aircraft, and only recently one or two UH-60s have been available for that facility. Considering only approximately eight to 15 full-time staff personnel have been available due to deployments and funding, aviation is still growing into full operating capability of this great new Gary facility.

Conclusion

Indiana Army National Guard aviation's ability to endure, succeed, and thrive after an unprecedented seven years of persistent deployments, while simultaneously supporting exponential growth in operational support, is an absolute, unparalleled, and unequivocal display of professionalism and expertise.

An equally impressive measure of the aviation Soldier and their soldiering spirit is the ability to emerge from that cycle and be postured to support several years more. Though it has been a tremendous challenge, Indiana Army National Guard is poised to successfully support more than 10 years of continuous mobilization cycles across its entire aviation force structure.

Who knows what the future brings, but the sacrifices and successes achieved by aviation Soldiers has positioned them well for potential gains.

The adjutant general nominated a new flight facility as his number one desired construction project, and we hope to see progress on that initiative. Our two OH-58 legacy aircraft are projected to be replaced by new UH-72 Lakotas in fiscal year 2014. Indiana's fixed-wing units continue their legacy by preparing for additional deployments in 2012 and 2013.

Lastly, through concentrated efforts from the aviation staff, our future continues to be assured through an all-time high of 19 students attending flight school at one time at the close of last year.

THANK YOU

If you have read this article so far without concluding this is a biased, proud, boastful advertisement for the incredible sacrifices and accomplishments of the Indiana Army National Guard aviation community let me assure you, or confirm, it is.

This is but one small way to say thanks for the many, many years of continuous exceptional support. My intent and hope for this article is for all who read it may have a better appreciation for the magnitude of continuous sacrifice and tremendous accomplishments your traditional and full-time aviation staff members have achieved.

Thank you to the past and present MTOE aviation staff, to the armory full-time staff, to the flight facility leadership, and mostly to the flight facility operations and maintenance personnel for seven years of persistent success throughout persistent conflict.

All in the Indiana National Guard should be proud of their aviation units and what they have accomplished over the past seven years and know that we are poised to successfully extend that to 10 years or more.

Lt. Col. Tim Winslow
Director of Aviation Safety

THANK YOU

Troops try new techniques

By Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

The Indiana National Guard and National Guard Bureau developed and implemented a 40-hour, five-day resiliency training course.

In January, nearly 40 Guard Soldiers and several civilian employees attended the course at Camp Atterbury, Ind., to become resiliency trainer assistants.

Indiana resilience coordinator, Capt. Jesse Carlton, said the trainer assistants work at unit level. They will promote productive behaviors and skills that individuals already possess, but may be unpolished or lack knowledge on how to use them.

Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Tera Eilers, the resilience training and development noncommissioned-officer-in-charge at National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Va., spent six months determining the status each state Guard resiliency program throughout the nation.

"Indiana was the first state to step up, and try to pilot the five-day course," said Eilers of Indiana Guard troops. "They've taken the initiative in it, and they're learning all the resilience competencies."

Those competencies include focusing on the positive, figuring out the most likely scenario instead of focusing on the worst-case scenario, asking "what" or "where" questions when problems arise, identifying personal character strengths, focusing on the most important things and dealing with daily stressors.

The students sharpened those competencies during the course, but most students were hesitant about the course at first, said Carlton and Eilers. Yet Eilers said the students excelled and bought into the course as it progressed.

"They're doing excellent," Eilers said on the fourth of five days. "Everyone starts out a little skeptical, unsure of what they were getting their selves into, but by this day they are learning connections, and how to communicate with each other. They're all on board right now. Everyone is doing a fabulous job."

Eilers commented on the importance of the training and why it should be taught to other troops and their family members.

"Teaching resilience, the ability to bounce back from adversity, and mental toughness is crucial to being a Soldier and a family member, especially with what we're going through in our generation," she said.

Since the terrorist attacks in 2001, Indiana has deployed more than 18,000 troops. With an approximately 14,000-person force that means some of Indiana's current generation has deployed multiple times.

"Using resilience training in their personal lives will help preparation for deployment, but also help prepare



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry
Indiana National Guard Sgt. 1st Class Rick Holland, a master resilience trainer instructor with the 138th Regional Training Institute, helps a fellow Soldier identify her personality strengths Thursday, Jan. 26, 2012.

their families to be able to handle the situation," said Sgt. 1st Class Michael Arthur, a 38th Infantry Division senior intelligence analyst, who has deployed multiple times.

Like others in the class, Arthur said he was a little skeptical at first when he volunteered to attend the course, but he is already using the techniques he's learned in his family life. One situation was with his brother who got in trouble at school.

"Where I focused on the 'why' in the past, I used the 'what' questions to lead him in finding out the problem. Where in the past he became defensive when I asked 'why?'" said Arthur. "So immediately it was a change in overall attitude between both of us. We ended up the conversation in a much better place than we have in the past."

Carlton said additional five-day training courses will be offered throughout the year.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Les Newport

Librarian Sharon Fox, middle, helps Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy cadets build reading comprehension skills.

Cadets crave books, develop learning skills

By Staff Sgt. Les Newport
Indiana National Guard
Public Affairs

KNIGHTSTOWN, Ind. - Sharon Fox wants her students to have a better understanding of their world. She believes that happens when they develop reading skills. She also knows books are the last thing most teenagers go looking for when they are bored.

But in Fox's world, things are different. Books are like savory treats, and her library is a candy store.

Fox, along with administrative and teaching responsibilities, serves as librarian for the Hoosier Youth Challenge Academy. The academy provides cadets with 22 weeks of a vigorous, round-the-clock schedule of academics, life-skills and fitness training. The program affords cadets no boredom.

No smart phone, no netbook, no Internet. For cadets the only media for escape is the printed word.

When Fox arrived a year ago the library still had vestiges of the K-12 inventory. Volunteers, staff and cadets began beefing up the pre-teen

and teen fodder the cadets learn to covet.

Magazines and newspapers are favorites, as well as popular fiction series for youth said Fox. She picks up papers as often as she can, and tries to find special requests at Goodwill.

Cadet Nathaniel Gaines, Gary, Ind., read approximately 20 books during his time at the academy, after having never read an entire book.

"Big ones, not little ones," said Gaines said of the books he chose. He learned quickly he risked running out of reading material if he only based his selection on content alone.

"They're like movies in my mind," said Gaines. Fellow cadet, Aaron Hudson, Linton, Ind., set an academy standard for book loving. With more than 50 to his credit, he was recognized as the unofficial book champ.

Cadets described his enthusiasm in terms of actions.

"He skipped bathroom breaks to get a new one," said one cadet.

"Cadre was always telling him to put the book back in his cargo

pocket in formation," said another.

Hudson admitted to slips in propriety.

"I wasn't the only one," said Hudson. "They're just hard to put down. I have to know what happens next."

Stephen Spalding, deputy director of the academy, said the fervor for reading that has risen in all nine classes since the academy was established in 2007. And it is more than hoopla.

"When reading comprehension scores go up, all scores go up," said Spaulding. "They just have a better understanding of the questions in all disciplines. It's that simple."

Hudson's comprehension score rose 150 points, from well below average to above average.

Fox said there is an element of personal growth the reading fosters..

"At first they're a bit timid and don't want other cadets to know they're reading, much less what they're reading," said Fox.

She said cadets quickly learn to share their appreciation for reading, recommending books to one another and cobbling impromptu book discussions during library visits.



Guard dedicates new armory

By Sgt. John Crosby
120th Public Affairs Detachment

Indiana National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger welcomed Gov. Mitch Daniels, U.S. Representative Todd Rokita, and other VIPs to the dedication ceremony for the Johnson County Armory in Franklin, Ind., Nov. 14, 2011.

"We are a community-based force," said Umbarger. "We don't live in forts; we don't live in bases. We live in communities from South Bend to Evansville, from Terre Haute to Richmond. Now, once again, we are a part of the Johnson County community. This isn't our facility; this is your facility. Thank you for welcoming us into your community."

The Johnson County Armory is a 169,000 square-foot, two-story training complex constructed on 39 acres of state-acquired property. The new facility is a Base Realignment and Closure project designed to relocate Indiana Army National Guard units and was paid fully by federal funds. The facility is expected to enhance

county-wide emergency response and is the largest readiness center in the state.

"The Guards all over this nation have been called in to do unprecedented things in this past decade," said Daniels. "In this new conflict in which we're engaged, and the new and different vicious threats now to our country, no state can lay claims to have done more than Indiana, whom I believe to be the finest National Guard in the country."

Eight Indiana Army National Guard units with nearly 750 personnel and three U.S. Army Reserve units with approximately 150 personnel will be stationed at the facility. The project cost \$35,000,000.

The expansive, state-of-the-art facility was built around a 237-year-old oak tree which sits centered on the armory's front lawn and maintains the integrity and history of the surrounding Indiana farmland. The historic tree is believed to have taken root in 1774.

Local farmer Mark Brown warned Umbarger long before ground was broken at the armory.

"He said, 'I'm gonna tell you what -- if you hurt that tree, you're gonna get hurt,'" said Umbarger, whom upon seeing the tree agreed that its integrity be preserved. Umbarger in turn told the architect that, "If anything happens to that tree, you got to deal with me."



Contributed photo

The 237-year-old oak tree still stands in front of the newly dedicated armory.

The Armory Brick by Brick

- 193,952 Bricks
- 16,274 Cubic Yards of Concrete
- 682 Construction Days
- 169,000 Square Feet
- 35 Million Dollars
- 317 Rooms
- 39 Acres
- 8 Indiana Army National Guard Units
- 3 U.S. Army Reserve Units
- Approximately 900 Personnel



Photo by Sgt. John Crosby

Dignitaries cut the red ribbon signifying the ceremonial opening of the Johnson County Armory in Franklin Ind., Nov. 14, 2011.



Photo by Sgt. John Crosby

The Indiana National Guard Ceremonial Unit posts the colors at the Johnson County Armory dedication ceremony in Franklin, Ind., Nov. 14, 2011.

81st commander rises to 'flag rank'



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry

By Staff Sgt. Jeff Lowry
120th Public Affairs Detachment

The Indiana National Guard held a promotion ceremony for Col. Joe Osburn to brigadier general at the Indiana War Memorial, February 18.

Osburn is the 81st Troop Command commander. In addition to his single-star rank, Osburn also received two, one-star flags for display purposes.

Prior to taking the helm of the 81st in January, Osburn, a 36-year military veteran, commanded the 2-19th Agribusiness Development Team during the unit's 2009 deployment to Afghanistan.

He served as the 81st TC's deputy commander, and in 2005 he commanded an approximate 1,000-person task force for Hurricane Katrina response efforts.

Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, spoke of Osburn's leadership.

"I couldn't think of anybody better to lead 81st Troop Command. I have complete trust and confidence in his abilities to meet the domestic challenges and requirements of our state and nation," said Umbarger, who then told of Osburn leading by example during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita response efforts.

Osburn's family, friends, coworkers, and Soldiers and Airmen of the Indiana National Guard attended the ceremony filling Pershing Auditorium.

The 81st, headquartered in Indianapolis, has units based in communities throughout the state.

Indiana Army National Guard Brig. Gen. Joe Osburn, left, 81st Troop Command commander, received his one-star flag from his stepson, Michaela Carney, as his wife, Fran, watches at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, Saturday, Feb. 18, 2012.



Photo by Staff Sgt. David Bruce

Indiana Army National Guard Brig. Gen. David C. Wood, center, deputy commanding general for the 38th Infantry Division, gets pinned by his mother, Siegrun, right, and Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, left, at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012.

Aviator sees stars, promoted to brig. gen.

By Staff Sgt. David Bruce
38th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Indiana Army National Guard Col. David C. Wood was promoted to brigadier general in a ceremony held at the Indiana War Memorial, Feb. 11. Wood will be the deputy commanding general for the Indiana National Guard's 38th Infantry Division.

Wood has worn the 38th Infantry Division patch since 1993, serving nearly 20 of his 26 years of military service with the division. Wood entered the Army after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy where he received a bachelor of science in engineering. While on active duty, Wood flew AH-64 Apache and UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters.

"I was always interested in flying as a kid," said Wood. "At West Point, I branched aviation; it was my first choice."

While often our military functions bear little resemblance to civilian careers for many Guardsmen, that is not the case for Wood, whose civilian job is with Delta Airlines as an international pilot.

Wood has held several positions throughout the division. He's commanded Headquarters Company, 38th Aviation Brigade; the 638th Aviation Support Battalion and the 38th Combat Aviation Brigade.

While commanding the 38th Combat Aviation Brigade, Wood deployed to Joint Base Balad in Iraq, in 2009 through 2010.

Wood's most recent duty was assistant chief of staff for operations at 38th Infantry Division.

"I'm just happy to be part of this organization. I'm honored and humbled by this promotion," said Wood. "I'm entering into a level to affect policy and work with the division staff to move it in the right direction. I want to stay focused on taking care of the Soldiers."

Giving Back

National Guard wife raises thousands for troops, families

By Sgt. John Crosby
Indiana National Guard
Public Affairs

Gale Willoughby moved to Indiana with her husband Luther from Fort Carson, Colo., after he retired from 23 years of active-duty Army service in 2005. Gale served three years active duty herself.

For years, she supported her husband, his fellow Soldiers and their families through Family Readiness Groups. She took that role seriously and was recognized by commanding generals for her efforts.

In retirement, Gale felt the void of not having the opportunity to volunteer to help Soldiers, something she'd done for more than two decades. As her family ingrained into the Indiana National Guard community, she found a new opportunity to volunteer.

Throughout the past five years, Gale and Texas Roadhouse raised more than \$34,500 providing more than 1,700 Soldiers and their families with a quality meal during the holiday season.

Gale teamed up with the Southport, Ind., Texas Roadhouse in 2007 to establish the Soldier Gift Card Program. Guests had the opportunity to purchase gift cards during the holiday season to be mailed to Indiana National Guardsmen and women.

"One of the main things I miss

upon retirement is not getting to help families on the level I have in the past," said Gale, who has been involved with numerous programs supporting the military throughout her and her husband's military career. "This is one of my most successful and fulfilling endeavors."

"We wanted to do something to give back. We've put a lot of thought into this. It's something our store and management team has become real passionate about."

Ken Sullivan
Texas Roadhouse

Feedback has been forthcoming and positive.

"I have received nothing but excellent comments from everyone who has benefited from this program," said Gale. "The emails and the phone calls really touch your heart, especially

from the mother or father from one of our great Americans who are praying for a safe return of their

loved ones."

Gale uses her own resources for posters, brochures, envelopes, whatever is needed to help the program. The program was successful and expanded to the Columbus, Ind., Texas Road House restaurant.

"We wanted to do something to give back," said Ken Sullivan, Texas Roadhouse managing partner. "We've put a lot of thought into this. It's something our store and management team has become real passionate about."

Success of the program has multiplied since the beginning in 2007 when \$1,800 was raised. Close to \$15,000 was raised in 2011.

"We've been getting a lot of people asking us when the program begins during the holiday season, a lot of people are excited and interested in this and want to contribute in giving something back to the Soldiers," said Sullivan. "We've made the program available year round."



Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, Gail Willoughby, Jerrod Hoye, managing partner of Texas Roadhouse restaurant in Columbus, Ind., and Ken Sullivan, managing partner of the Southport, Ind., Texas Roadhouse Restaurant pose for a photograph.



Photo by Staff Sgt. David Bruce
Indiana's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, presents a challenge coin to Adam Samuelson in a ceremony held at the Southport, Ind., Texas Roadhouse restaurant Monday, Jan. 30, 2012.

Southport's shining 'rock star'

By Sgt. John Crosby
Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

As more members of the local community get involved with the Texas Roadhouse Soldier Gift Card Program, one story stood out.

Southport Middle School student Alan Samuelson sold more than \$1,000 in Texas Roadhouse gift cards during his school's annual gift card fundraiser.

Indiana National Guard Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, his staff, and Soldiers benefited by the program personally thanked Samuelson and Gale Willoughby at Texas Roadhouse, Jan. 30, 2012, for their hard work and dedication to the Indiana Guard community.

"They treated him like a rock star at that luncheon," said Southport Middle School Assistant Principal Stephanie Quinlan of Samuelson. "Every Soldier there shook his hand and said thank you; it was wonderful. It's an honor to be able to help the Soldiers. Alan really didn't think it was a big deal until he saw how grateful the Soldiers were; it really was amazing."

Communities contribute for troops' well-being

- > Ball State University ROTC Cadets donated \$3,000 to the annual TAPS Program in fall 2011.
- > The Caring Place, since 2008, sets aside a special night for Indiana military families to bring their children to the Christmas Store, and the children shop for free and pick out Christmas presents for their family members.
- > Rolls-Royce has donated to the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund and has been a corporate sponsor of the annual golf outing for the past five years. The company also donated refreshments for homecoming events held in Building 9.
- > East Indianapolis Sertoma Club has held a Support Our Troops picnic since 2009.
- > The Fort Wayne Komets have held military appreciation nights and the players wear Indiana National Guard themed jerseys that are auctioned. The proceeds are then donated to the Relief Fund.
- > Indianapolis Indians held a military night that also featured players wearing Indiana National Guard themed jerseys. Those jerseys were auctioned and proceeds donated to the Relief Fund.
- > American Bikers Aimed Towards Education of Indiana sponsors a yearly charity motorcycle ride with the governor and the proceeds are donated to the Relief Fund.
- > The Indiana Toll Road Commission held a fundraiser over a Fourth of July weekend in 2008 and donated five cents from every car that traveled on the toll road that weekend.
- > Amazon.com in January donated \$5,000 to the Relief Fund.
- > St. Rose Lima Catholic School held fun run and donates half the proceeds to the Relief Fund.
- > Jobs for America's Graduates of Huntington North High School donated \$1,500 to the Relief Fund, Feb. 3.

Information provided by Kelley Newman,
Indiana National Guard Relief Fund Coordinator

Super Awesome from page 4

NFL, two-time Super Bowl champ, hosted the Fourth Annual Swang N' Super Bowl Bash where charity donations from NFL players and celebrities were raised to benefit wounded warriors.

Joining in the festivities were deployed Indiana Guard Soldiers and Airmen of the 4-19th Agribusiness Development Team who spoke live via satellite feed from Afghanistan with Indiana Adjutant General Army Maj. Gen. R. Martin Umbarger, McMahon, and other athletes and celebrities.

Umbarger expressed his gratitude to the wounded warriors for their service and sacrifice.

"I'm honored that I can even be around these heroes, and that's what I call them is heroes," said Umbarger. "First of all, they volunteered to wear the uniform of this nation. They've suffered tremendous injuries. They've gone on with their lives. For me to be able to be here and meet them is really special. I really value it a lot."

"We wouldn't be able to live in this country as freely as we do without the sacrifices of the military," said McMahon. "It's always been a passion, to meet some of these kids that come home injured and the stories that they can tell. Whatever it is we can do to help these guys out is why we do this event."

In addition to the wounded warrior events, U.S. troops from across the nation were honored and welcomed at the 2012 NFL Super Bowl celebration, Feb. 2, as part of the Super Bowl Military Appreciation Day.

The celebration included 10 days of themed events such as Super Fans, Super Families, Super Cure and Super Heroes, which honored men and women in uniform.

In Super Bowl Village, dubbed the "Epicenter of Awesome," recruiters set up interactive combat simulators, and several recruits were officially sworn in on stage. Patriotism was palpable as fans began to

chant "USA" after Indiana Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Betty White sang the national anthem. Rapid Fire, a rock band consisting of several members of Indiana's 38th Infantry Division, played at the Huddle Room, and the Honor Guard displayed colors.

The same day approximately 30 miles south of Indy, Camp Atterbury hosted its own NFL Salute to Service military appreciation event with NFL players.

The event was unique for Super Bowl week in that instead of being designed to celebrate the sport of football, the purpose was for the league to show its support of America's service members and their families by celebrating them.

"This is huge for the morale of Soldiers here training to deploy to combat," said Command Sgt. Maj. Rodney Spade, Camp Atterbury command sergeant major. "An event like this makes these guys feel like someone truly care about what they are doing to serve their country."

Indianapolis Colts linebacker A.J. Edds, who grew up in Greenwood, Ind., approximately 15 miles south of Indy, expressed his gratitude to U.S. service members.

"I'm very thankful for the dedication, the service, the way you put your country first," Edds said as he was addressing the Soldiers at the event. "You guys are out there defending our country and guys like us are here playing games because of people like you. We appreciate everything you do."

Nearly 2,000 Soldiers and their families, including Soldiers from the Wounded Warrior Project as well as Blue and Gold Star families, all attended the event, making it a huge success for the Indiana National Guard and the NFL.

Editor's Note: This story is a compilation of stories written by Staff Sgt. Matt Scotten, Atterbury-Muscatatuck Public Affairs; Sgt. William E. Henry and Sgt. John Crosby, Indiana National Guard Public Affairs

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or email brandon.barr@ng.army.mil.

Medics, Mechanics, Pilots



Indiana Army National Guard Sgt. Chris Flodder, a UH-60 Black Hawk crew chief with Company C, 1st Battalion, 137th Aviation, checks an electrical connector on a main generator, Sunday, Feb. 5, 2012. "It's what we're trained to do, is to be mission ready," he said of working on Super Bowl Sunday. "It was a pleasure to do it, to be part of a once-in-a-lifetime situation and help with security," said Flodder of Batesville, Ind. Photo by Staff Sgt. Les Newport



Indiana National Guard Spc. Matthew King, Plymouth, Ind., kisses his son, Noah, before the start of a departure ceremony for Task Force Guardian in Indianapolis, Thursday, Jan. 5, 2012. Soldiers from the 381st and 387th Military Police Companies comprise the task force, which deployed to Afghanistan to mentor and train Afghan police. Photo by Sgt. William E. Henry